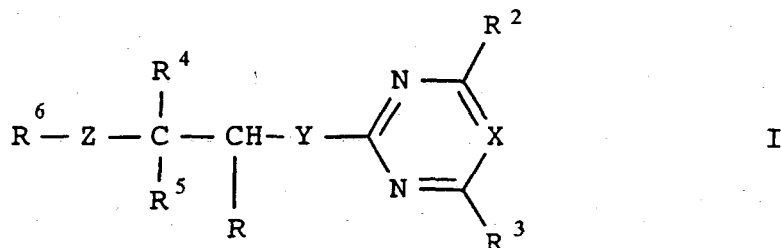


We claim:

A carboxylic acid derivative of the formula I

5

10



where R is formyl, tetrazole [sic], nitrile [sic], a COOH group
 15 or a radical which can be hydrolyzed to COOH, and the other substituents have the following meanings:

R² hydrogen, hydroxyl, NH₂, NH(C₁-C₄-alkyl), N(C₁-C₄-alkyl)₂,
 halogen, C₁-C₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-haloalkyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy,
 20 C₁-C₄-haloalkoxy or C₁-C₄-alkylthio;

X nitrogen or CR¹⁴ where R¹⁴ is hydrogen or C₁₋₅-alkyl, or CR¹⁴
 forms together with CR³ a 5- or 6-membered alkylene or
 alkenylene ring which can be substituted by one or
 25 two C₁₋₄-alkyl groups and in which in each case a methylene
 group can be replaced by oxygen, sulfur, -NH or -NC₁₋₄-alkyl;

R³ hydrogen, hydroxyl, NH₂, NH(C₁-C₄-Alkyl), N(C₁-C₄-alkyl)₂,
 halogen, C₁-C₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-haloalkyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy,
 30 C₁-C₄-haloalkoxy, -NH-O-C₁₋₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-alkylthio or CR³ is
 linked to CR¹⁴ as indicated above to give a 5- or 6-membered
 ring;

R⁴ and R⁵ (which can be identical or different):
 35

phenyl or naphthyl, which can be substituted by one or more
 of the following radicals: halogen, nitro, cyano, hydroxyl,
 C₁-C₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-haloalkyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy, C₁-C₄-haloalkoxy,
 phenoxy, C₁-C₄-alkylthio, amino, C₁-C₄-alkylamino or C₁-C₄-di-
 40 alkylamino; or

phenyl or naphthyl, which are connected together in the ortho
 positions via a direct linkage, a methylene, ethylene or
 ethenylene group, an oxygen or sulfur atom or an SO₂, NH or
 45 N-alkyl group

or C₃-C₇-cycloalkyl;

R⁶ hydrogen, C₁-C₈-alkyl, C₃-C₆-alkenyl, C₃-C₆-alkynyl or C₃-C₈-cycloalkyl, where each of these radicals can be substituted one or more times by: halogen, nitro, cyano, C₁-C₄-alkoxy, C₃-C₆-alkenyloxy, C₃-C₆-alkynyloxy, C₁-C₄-alkylthio, C₁-C₄-haloalkoxy, C₁-C₄-alkylcarbonyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy-carbonyl, C₃₋₈-alkylcarbonylalkyl, C₁-C₄-alkylamino, di-C₁-C₄-alkylamino, phenyl or phenyl or phenoxy which is substituted one or more times, eg. one to three times, by halogen, nitro, cyano, C₁-C₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-haloalkyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy, C₁-C₄-haloalkoxy or C₁-C₄-alkylthio;

phenyl or naphthyl, each of which can be substituted by one or more of the following radicals: halogen, nitro, cyano, hydroxyl, amino, C₁-C₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-haloalkyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy, C₁-C₄-haloalkoxy, phenoxy, C₁-C₄-alkylthio, C₁-C₄-alkylamino, C₁-C₄-dialkylamino or dioxomethylene [sic] or dioxoethylene [sic];

a five- or six-membered heteroaromatic moiety containing one to three nitrogen atoms and/or one sulfur or oxygen atom, which can carry one to four halogen atoms and/or one or two of the following radicals: C₁-C₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-haloalkyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy, C₁-C₄-haloalkoxy, C₁-C₄-alkylthio, phenyl, phenoxy or phenylcarbonyl, it being possible for the phenyl radicals in turn to carry one to five halogen atoms and/or one to three of the following radicals: C₁-C₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-haloalkyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy, C₁-C₄-haloalkoxy and/or C₁-C₄-alkylthio;

with the proviso that R⁶ can be hydrogen only when Z is not a single bond;

Y sulfur or oxygen or a single bond;

Z sulfur, oxygen, -SO-, -SO₂- or a single bond.